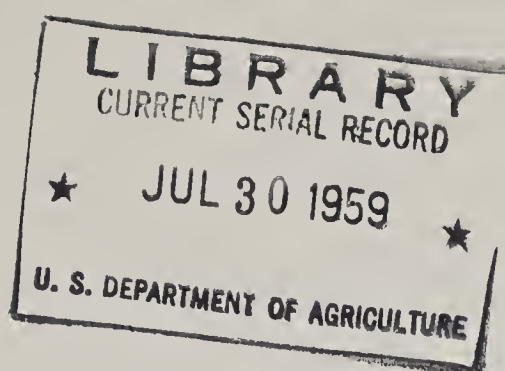


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FARM ELECTRICITY REPORT

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71343
Cp. 2



July 14, 1959

Farm Use of Electricity
Reaches New High in 1958

Farm consumption of electricity averaged 472 kilowatt hours for the month of July, 1958 or 14 percent above a year earlier, according to the annual survey made last year by the Crop Reporting Board. Reflecting this increased usage, the average cost per kilowatt hour was down 5 percent. More than 25,000 farmers throughout the United States cooperated in this survey.

In 1958, farmers continued their increase in the use of electricity throughout the country. The United States average of 472 kilowatt hours established a new high. It compared with 415 for 1957 and 196 for the 1947-49 average. The regional increases in kilowatt hours used per farm varied from 10 percent above 1957 in the Middle Atlantic Region to 18 percent above in the East South Central States. The Pacific Coast States continued to use more electricity per farm than any other region, with electric power for irrigation pumps the dominate factor.

The cost per kilowatt hour averaged 3 to 8 percent below a year earlier in all regions, with the United States average down 5 percent. The 3 percent decline occurred in the West North Central Region. The cost per kilowatt dropped 8 percent in both the East North Central and South Atlantic Regions. The declines in average cost resulted primarily from increased consumption with a larger proportion of the usage being bought in the lower-priced brackets in the rate schedule. The average cost per kilowatt hour for the U. S. was 2.41 cents as compared with 2.54 in 1957 and the 1947-49 average of 3.13 cents. The region reporting the highest cost was the West North Central with an average of 3.2 cents. On the low side, farm consumers in the Pacific Coast States paid only 1.8 cents, and in the East South Central Region, 2.0 cents per kilowatt hour.

The average monthly bill at \$11.30 was up 80 cents from 1957. This was nearly 7 percent above a year earlier and 84 percent above the 1947-49 average. The largest regional increase was 12 percent in the East South Central Region which also had the highest increase in consumption. On the low side was the East North Central and Pacific Regions, up only 4 percent above 1957.

Kilowatt-hours used, average cost per kilowatt-hour, and
average monthly bill per farm by regions 1/

Regions	: <u>Kwh. used per farm</u> :			: <u>Av. cost per kwh.</u> :			: <u>Av. monthly bill</u> :		
	Av.	1957	1958	Av.	1957	1958	Av.	1957	1958
	:1947-49:			:1947-49:			:1947-49:		
	<u>No.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Cents</u>	<u>Cents</u>	<u>Cents</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>
N. Eng.	: 243	415	470	3.2	2.8	2.7	7.67	11.60	12.70
M. Atl.	: 288	545	600	2.7	2.3	2.2	7.82	12.50	13.20
E. N. C.	: 227	465	525	3.2	2.6	2.4	7.22	12.10	12.60
W. N. C.	: 166	360	405	4.2	3.3	3.2	6.93	11.90	13.00
S. Atl.	: 131	330	380	3.5	2.5	2.3	4.53	8.20	8.70
E. S. C.	: 125	310	365	3.3	2.1	2.0	4.08	6.50	7.30
W. S. C.	: 106	250	285	4.5	3.1	2.9	4.74	7.80	8.30
Mount.	: 287	570	655	2.5	2.3	2.2	7.07	13.10	14.40
Pacific	: 442	1,215	1,385	1.7	1.9	1.8	7.70	23.10	24.00
U. S.	: 196	415	472	3.13	2.54	2.41	6.13	10.50	11.30

1/ The survey made in July and August requested data based on "last bill."
This was generally a bill for a period ending in last June, July, or early August.

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